GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:675
ANSWERED ON:21.11.2001
SUBSIDY TO HAJ PILGRIMS
DINESH CHANDRA YADAV;SANAT KUMAR MANDAL;SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether subsidy is given on air ticket to each of the Haj pilgrims;

(b) if so, the amount of subsidy given on each air ticket during the year 2000-2001;

(c) whether a decision has been taken to withdraw this subsidy in the coming years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the extent to which the amount of subsidy of the current year is more than the subsidy of the previous year?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH)

(a) No, Sir. Subsidy is given to only those pilgrims who undertake Haj pilgrimage through Central Haj Committee.

(b) The amount of subsidy on each air ticket for Haj pilgrims during Haj 2001 was Rs.21,000/- approximately.

(c) The Cabinet has directed that a proposal be brought up before it for phasing out the subsidy over the next few years.

(d) The proposal is under examination and yet to be submitted.